



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Center for Middle Eastern Studies

Title: Point of View and Cultural Experience reflected in *Mom, what is war?*

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Purpose/Connection to the Curriculum: Students will be able to analyze the point of view of using the short story “Sniper Story” in the graphic novel, *Mom, what is war?*

Overview: Students will read a short story from the graphic novel to analyze point of view.

Grade Level: 10

Time Required: 1 class period

Targeted Skills - Based on Arizona State Standards: 9-10.RL.6 Analyze how points of view and/or cultural experiences are reflected in works of literature, drawing from a variety of literary texts.

Suggested Procedures: We will begin by reviewing point of view with an emphasis on third person limited and third person omniscient as students in my class still struggle to explain the difference between the two. Using the document camera, the class will analyze the first page of the story, discussing what appears to be going on in the story as well as whose point of view the story seems to be told from. Then we will take a look at the second page, omitting the last frame of the story so that students can review what has occurred and make predictions as to what they think will happen next. We’ll have a class discussion about whether this story reflects a universal cultural experience or one that is unique to Sarajevo since the author wrote all these stories as a result of his time spent in Sarajevo during the siege. Since the story is told from a third point omniscient view, the students will re-write the story from the point of view of either the sniper or the little boy who was shot, or they can choose to write a short story about the sniper telling his son what happens when he’s older.

Extending the Lesson: Students will create a graphic novel for either *Anthem* or “Harrison Bergeron” from one of the point of view of anyone except the main character.